

MEMORIAL

OF

THE AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION,

PRAYING

*The adoption of measures for the correction of errors in the returns of
the sixth census.*

DECEMBER 10, 1844.

Referred to the Committee, on the Library, and motion to print referred to the Committee on
Printing.

DECEMBER 11, 1844.

Ordered to be printed.

*To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress
assembled :*

The undersigned respectfully represent, that various and gross errors having been discovered in the printed edition of the sixth census of the United States, the American Statistical Association appointed them a committee to investigate the matter, and to report thereon to your honorable bodies.

Not having reliable data with which they could compare all the details of the census, they have confined their investigations to the reports respecting education, nosology, and employments, and herewith beg leave to communicate the results.

According to the census of 1840, there are in the United States 173 universities or colleges, containing 16,233 students. There is good reason to suppose that the number of colleges given is almost twice as large as the true number, and that the number of students is exaggerated nearly as much. Four colleges, for example, are put down to Maine, which has two; four to Massachusetts, which has three; four to Connecticut, which has three.

The number of colleges given for these States is nearly equal to the number of colleges and of theological schools, having a separate existence, taken together. Not unlikely, institutions of this latter class were indiscriminately included under the designation of colleges, although the difference between them, one would suppose, is clearly enough defined.

The number of colleges reported in the American Almanac for 1844 is 105; and the number of students, by which is meant undergraduates, or members of the four collegiate classes, is about 10,000.

The errors in regard to the common schools are the most striking. Your memorialists are aware that, in the States of New York, Connecticut, and

in some others, one portion of the cost of maintaining the public schools is assessed equally upon all the children who enjoy their advantages. But this capitation tax or tuition fee is only a part, and, in some States, a very small part, of the whole expense of the school establishment, and therefore these children are educated mostly, and in Connecticut almost entirely, at the public charge. Besides, this tuition fee is assessed only upon such as are able to pay it; all others are exempted from this tax. They are therefore, strictly speaking, educated at the public charge. This last class must be confined, nearly, to the children of paupers; for this capitation tax is so small, (in New York being less than one dollar a year for each child,) that very few are so poor as to be unable to pay it, with few exceptions as to some cities. The law is equal throughout any State, and therefore the proportion of children educated at public charge must vary in any State only with the difference of prosperity and pauperism.

In the State of New York, the counties of Allegany, Cortland, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Lewis, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Oswego, Schoharie, Steuben, Warren, and Yates, according to the sixth census, have no children thus educated at the public charge; while Cayuga has 2,990 children in the public schools, Erie 3,148, Kings 2,857, New York 9,690, Sullivan 1,057, who are thus exempted from this assessment of less than a dollar each on account of poverty.

In Connecticut the same discrepancy is shown. Litchfield county, with 40,448 inhabitants, and 9,667 children in the public schools, has none unable to pay the assessment; while Windham county, with 28,080 inhabitants, and 7,749 children in public schools, has 4,047 so poor as to be unable to contribute this small assessment.

In Maine and Massachusetts the schools are supported entirely at the public cost, and therefore every child in the public schools is educated at the public charge. But, according to the census, in the State of Maine, the county of Aroostook has 1,150 in public schools, and none at public charge; Franklin, 7,185 in public schools, and only 296 at public charge; Piscataquis, 5,578 in public schools, and only 504 at public charge; York, 18,490 in public schools, and only 7,741 at public charge; and the whole State of Maine has 164,477 in public schools, and 60,212 at public charge. The whole State of Massachusetts has 160,257 at public schools, and 158,351 at public charge.

In the table of the census, under the head of schools, the sixth column contains the whole number of scholars attending the public schools, and the seventh column contains the number of those in these schools at public charge; and although the seventh column can only be a part of the sixth, yet the census, in very many cases, makes the latter exceed the former, as follows:

State, county, or town.	Whole No. of scholars.	No. of these at public charge.
MAINE.		
Town of Gorham	25	1,160
Town of Portland	1,976	2,337
Town of Saco	800	1,193

TABLE—Continued.

State, county, or town.	Whole No. of scholars.	No. of these at public charge.
NEW HAMPSHIRE.		
Exeter - - - - -	20	590
Portsmouth - - - - -	1,040	1,180
MASSACHUSETTS.		
County of Middlesex - - - - -	20,998	24,876
Town of Charlestown - - - - -	1,285	2,202
Town of Lowell - - - - -	1,611	2 695
Town of Lynn - - - - -	302	1,035
CONNECTICUT.		
Milford - - - - -	45	719
VERMONT.		
County of Washington - - - - -	3,323	6,866
Town of Montpelier - - - - -	none.	975
NEW YORK.		
Buffalo - - - - -	1,024	2,676
OHIO.		
Columbiana - - - - -	2,421	3,738
Hardin - - - - -	30	522
Stark - - - - -	809	8,671
INDIANA.		
Fountain - - - - -	30	3,075
ILLINOIS.		
Lasalle - - - - -	118	346
Washington city - - - - -	157	213

The principles on which people were classed, according to their several employments, seemed to have been very various among the different marshals, or the facts which they have thus gathered have been very inaccurately recorded. Some seem to have included the whole population, men, women, and children, in these classes, arranging them, probably, according to the employment of the head of the family, and some seem to have noticed only the males over 21 years of age; others seem to have noticed all who were sufficiently old to perform any service; and, lastly, some seem to have entirely neglected this duty, and recorded none in some of the employments; and, in many counties, none are reported to have any employment whatever.

With a view of exposing this extraordinary discrepancy of statement respecting the employments of the people in the various parts of our country, your memorialists have selected the following districts, and placed the number stated to be engaged in business, in comparison with the whole population, and with the greatest possible proportion that, in the most liberal interpretation, could be supposed to be employed in any occupation.

Seeing that the reports respecting agriculture differ the most widely, the numbers employed in this, also, have been selected for comparison.

State, county, or town.	Total population.	Males over 15 years.	Engaged in agriculture.	Engaged in all other employments.	Proportion engaged in all employments to total population.
Bucksport, Me. - - - -	3,015	835	1,473	250	1 in 1.8
Washington county, Me. - - - -	28,327	8,177	3,732	2,380	1 in 4.6
Grafton county, N. H. - - - -	42,311	13,305	23,434	3,343	1 in 159
Haverhill, N. H. - - - -	2,784	907	1,619	277	1 in 1.4
Hanover, N. H. - - - -	2,613	1,084	985	596	1 in 1.6
West Springfield, Mass. - - - -	3,738	1,163	1,053	233	1 in 2.7
Smithfield, R. I. - - - -	9,534	2,674	3,419	6,111	1 in 1
Chenango county, N. Y. - - - -	40,785	12,172	20,545	4,756	1 in 1.6
Wayne county, Pa. - - - -	11,848	-	-	32	1 in 370
Three counties in Pa. - - - -	80,818	-	-	-	none.
Clinton county, Ill. - - - -	3,718	1,016	2,844	43	1 in 1.3
Montgomery county, Ill. - - - -	4,481	1,181	2,829	164	1 in 1.5
Champaign county, Ill. - - - -	1,475	382	5	9	1 in 163
Mason county, Ill. - - - -	3,039	-	-	-	none.
Livingston county, Mich. - - - -	7,430	2,178	7,083	108	1 in 1
Chippewa county, Mich. - - - -	534	-	7	79	1 in 6
Porter county, Ind. - - - -	2,162	-	-	-	none.
Carroll county, O. - - - -	18,108	-	95	150	1 in 74
Harrison, Knox, and Paulding counties, O. - - - -	50,712	-	-	851	1 in 59
		White males over 15 and all col'd persons over 10			
Louisa county, Va. - - - -	15,439	7,725	7,336	613	1 in 1.9
Northampton county, Va. - - - -	7,715	3,892	3,896	633	1 in 1.7
York county, Va. - - - -	4,720	2,416	2,231	106	1 in 2
Giles county, Va. - - - -	9,087	2,500	491	131	1 in 148
Logan and Jackson counties, Va. - - - -	9,199	-	none	none	none.
Perquimans county, N. C. - - - -	7,346	3,304	3,769	285	1 in 1.7
Carteret county, N. C. - - - -	6,591	-	7	11	1 in 366
Currituck, Martin, and Rutherford cos., N. C. - - - -	33,542	-	none	none	none.
Colleton county, S. C. - - - -	25,548	15,475	14,631	139	1 in 1.7
McIntosh county, Ga. - - - -	5,360	3,346	3,533	200	1 in 1.4
Clarke county, Ga. - - - -	10,522	-	2,123	none.	none.
Walton county, Ga. - - - -	10,209	-	2,635	none.	none.
Ware, Irwin, Houston, Dade, Bryan, and Baker counties, Ga. - - - -	27,184	-	-	-	none.
Dale county, Ala. - - - -	7,397	-	63	2	1 in 113
Henry and Jefferson counties, Ala. - - - -	12,918	-	-	-	none.
Marion county, Ala. - - - -	5,847	-	-	-	none.

TABLE—Continued.

State, county, or town.	Total population.	White males over 15, and all colored persons over 10.	Engaged in agriculture.	Engaged in all other employments.	Proportion engaged in all employments to total population.
Washington county, Miss. - - - -	7,287	5,246	4,673	4	1 in 1.5
Lawrence county, Miss. - - - -	5,928	1,877	625	-	1 in 9.4
Lauderdale county, Miss. - - - -	5,338	2,609	-	-	none.
Concordia, La. - - - -	9,414	6,617	7,538	5	1 in 1.2
Avoyelles, La. - - - -	6,616	-	2	40	1 in 157
St. Landry, La. - - - -	15,233	-	76	8	1 in 161
St. Mary and St. John Baptist, La. - - - -	14,726	-	-	-	none.
Davidson county, Tenn. - - - -	30,509	13,731	20,448	2,187	1 in 1.4
Overton county, Tenn. - - - -	9,279	2,538	6,790	104	1 in 1.3
Cocke county, Tenn. - - - -	6,992	-	793	69	1 in 7.8
Anderson county, Ky. - - - -	5,452	1,881	3,845	47	1 in 1.4
Lincoln county, Ky. - - - -	10,187	-	724	123	1 in 12
Laurel and Perry counties, Ky. - - - -	7,168	-	-	-	none.
Chicot county, Ark. - - - -	3,808	2,254	2,193	-	1 in 1.7
Desha county, Ark. - - - -	1,598	-	8	-	1 in 199
Crittenden, White, and Searcy counties, Ark. - - - -	3,426	-	-	-	none.
Chariton county, Mo. - - - -	4,746	1,689	1,954	462	1 in 1.9
Davis, Linn, and Livingston counties, Mo. - - - -	13,095	-	-	-	none.
Jefferson county, Fla. - - - -	5,713	3,104	2,989	545	1 in 1.6
Appalachicola, Fla. - - - -	7,712	-	86	605	1 in 11
Five other counties in Fla. - - - -	7,957	-	-	1	1 in 7957

Most, if not all the counties which are represented in the foregoing table to have the lowest proportion or none of their inhabitants engaged in agriculture; are, from their geographical position, almost exclusively agricultural; having few or no towns in which their population might have been otherwise gathered and employed. The reports upon mining are equally improbable, and very contradictory. In one volume of the census the aggregate amount of each description of persons is given according to their several employments.

In another volume is given the value and produce and number of persons employed as miners, in agriculture, commerce, manufactures, &c. In the first is stated generally the number employed in mining. In the second is stated specifically the number employed in the several species of mines. These two statements of persons so engaged ought to agree exactly. But the following table shows how widely they differ:

Number of persons engaged in mining, according to the sixth census,
Thomas Allen's edition.

State or county.	According to first statement.	According to second statement.
Maine -	30	357
New Hampshire -	13	177
Massachusetts -	499	2,081
Connecticut -	151	1,593
Vermont -	77	1,048
New York -	1,898	7,557
New Jersey -	2,660	2,207
Pennsylvania -	4,603	17,122
Delaware -	5	74
Maryland -	320	1,939
Virginia -	1,995	3,800
Kanawha county, Va. -	160	209
North Carolina -	589	911
South Carolina -	51	321
Georgia -	574	643
Mississippi -	14	0
Louisiana -	1	145
Tennessee -	103	2,306
Kentucky -	331	1,448
Ohio -	704	3,203
Illinois -	782	445
Jo. Davies county, Illinois -	617	73
Adams county, do -	-	15
Missouri -	742	359
Washington county, Missouri, -	258	67
Florida -	1	30
Wisconsin -	794	223
Iowa -	217	382
Total United States -	15,210	47,558

The same discrepancy exists in regard to the counties and towns—the excess being sometimes in the first, and at other times in the second statement; and often they are reported in only one. The reports of the number of men engaged in commerce are subject to the same objection of disagreement. In the enumeration of the people is one record of the men so employed. But in the account of the capital used in, and the products of, and the numbers employed in the various branches of the employments, an entirely different report is made of the number of men so engaged, as will be seen by the following quotations from the sixth census:

Number of persons engaged in commerce.

State or county.	1st state- ment.	2d state- ment.	State or county.	1st state- ment.	2d state- ment.
<i>Maine</i> - - -	2,921	2,247	<i>North Carolina</i> - -	1,734	669
Cumberland county - -	547	1,305	Six counties - - -	-	277
Hancock county - - -	170	14	Forty-two counties - -	1,098	-
<i>New Hampshire</i> - - -	1,379	781	<i>South Carolina</i> - -	1,958	1,228
Cheshire county - - -	152	252	Pickens county - - -	7	20
Sullivan county - - -	5	40	Beaufort county - - -	38	73
<i>Massachusetts</i> - - -	8,063	4,711	Four counties - - -	-	18
Barnstable county - -	250	3	Sixteen counties - - -	474	-
Nantucket county - - -	227	-	<i>Georgia</i> - - -	2,428	653
<i>Rhode Island</i> - - -	1,358	403	Bibb county - - -	-	263
<i>Connecticut</i> - - -	2,743	951	Chatham county - - -	606	67
Windham county - - -	68	1	<i>Alabama</i> - - -	2,212	179
<i>Vermont</i> - - -	1,303	515	Lauderdale county - -	68	96
Bennington county - -	83	2	<i>Mississippi</i> - - -	1,303	283
Four counties - - -	209	-	<i>Louisiana</i> - - -	8,549	891
<i>New York</i> - - -	28,468	17,989	Jefferson county - - -	381	675
Albany county - - -	425	1,998	New Orleans - - -	7,392	119
Erie county - - -	893	1,160	<i>Tennessee</i> —	-	-
Chenango county - - -	458	10	Knox county - - -	103	5
New York city - - -	11,365	3,062	Shelby county - - -	152	210
Three counties - - -	262	-	<i>Kentucky</i> - - -	3,448	855
Orange county - - -	167	1,153	Whitley county - - -	3	20
<i>New Jersey</i> —	-	-	Jefferson county - - -	688	124
Huntingdon county - -	173	45	<i>Ohio</i> - - -	9,201	4,806
Monmouth county - - -	116	166	Shelby county - - -	177	355
<i>Pennsylvania</i> - - -	15,338	7,676	Wood county - - -	26	128
Allegany county - - -	914	1,387	<i>Indiana</i> —	-	-
Two counties - - -	-	110	Gibson county - - -	37	2,600
Eight counties - - -	482	-	Indiana county - - -	3,076	3,709
Bucks county - - -	428	121	Posey county - - -	86	1
<i>Delaware</i> - - -	467	169	<i>Illinois</i> - - -	2,506	790
<i>Maryland</i> - - -	3,291	1,644	White county - - -	32	141
<i>Virginia</i> - - -	6,361	2,488	<i>Missouri</i> - - -	2,522	552
Fluvanna county - - -	24	111	<i>Arkansas</i> - - -	215	266
<i>Michigan</i> - - -	728	456	-	-	-

The above are only a small portion of instances of this want of agreement in the two parts of the census. In very few instances is there any exact coincidence—in many, the widest difference. It is a notorious fact, that every town in New England and every county in the United States has its retail traders—men engaged in commerce; yet the census states that there are none of these persons in many towns, where, within the personal knowledge of your memorialists, men are so engaged.

The census states that the city of Albany, New York, has only thirty-five, while Troy has seven hundred and ninety-six employed in commerce. The city of Norwich, Connecticut, is mainly a commercial place, but, according to the census, there are none within its limits employed in commerce. Five counties in Pennsylvania, one in Maryland, thirteen in Virginia, eighteen in North Carolina, four in South Carolina, thirty-eight in Georgia, eleven in Alabama, eighteen in Mississippi, ten in Louisiana, five in Tennessee, fifteen in Kentucky, five in Ohio, thirteen in Indiana, fifteen in Illinois, fourteen in Missouri, seventeen in Arkansas, five in Michigan, according to the first statement, have no persons employed in commerce.

On the other hand, one in Delaware, nine in Maryland, twelve in Penn-

sylvania, seventy-four in Virginia, forty-two in North Carolina, sixteen in South Carolina, seventy-two in Georgia, forty-four in Alabama, forty-four in Mississippi, thirty-one in Louisiana, thirty-six in Tennessee, fifty-five in Kentucky, twenty-nine in Ohio, forty-four in Indiana, fifty-eight in Illinois, forty-one in Missouri, thirty in Arkansas, and fifteen in Michigan, have none so employed, according to the second statement; and even these counties are not the same, so far as they go, in both the statements.

Under the head of commerce is given the number of commission houses, commercial houses in foreign trade, and retail dry goods, grocery, and other stores, lumber yards and trade, and also the number of men employed. These require at least one man at each storehouse or yard, generally more than one, oftentimes many, to conduct each one of them. The following table, extracted from the census, will show how few men are employed in them, according to the number of business stores and places:

States and counties.	Number of business houses, stores, & lumber yards.	Number of men employed.	States and counties.	Number of business houses, stores, & lumber yards.	Number of men employed.
Maine, Somerset county -	77	6	Seventy six counties -	1,308	
New Hampshire -	1,108	626	North Carolina -	1,138	432
Strafford county -	247	98	Forty-six counties -	730	
Coos county -	23		S. Carolina, 18 counties -	476	
Massachusetts -	4,126	3,432	Georgia -	1,798	442
Nantucket & Franklin cos. -	106		Seventy-five counties -	1,207	
Rhode Island -	1,072	262	Alabama -	1,060	73
Connecticut -	1,710	582	Mississippi -	840	228
Windham county -	115	1	Louisiana -	2,991	597
Vermont -	761	321	Tennessee, 38 counties -	526	
Nine counties -	398	6	Kentucky -	1,835	571
New York -	14,134	9,592	Fifty-nine counties -	806	
Seven counties -	387		Ohio -	4,977	2,891
Nine counties -	1,190	35	Thirty-three counties -	1,035	
Pennsylvania -	7,190	5,064	Indiana -	1,875	767
Fifteen counties -	380		Fifty-two counties -	788	
Maryland -	2,797	1,330	Missouri -	1,094	345
Illinois -	1,440	405	Forty-four counties -	676	
Sixty-five counties -	794		Michigan -	653	312
Arkansas, thirty counties -	139		Eighteen counties -	168	
District of Columbia -	305	49			
Virginia -	2,872	1,454	Total in United States -	63,647	35,963

In most of the counties, the number of the business houses and stores and lumber yards exceeds that of the men employed in them.

In some, there are stores and business without capital; and in others, capital without stores or houses; and other counties are represented to have neither store, business house, lumber yard, capital, nor men employed in commerce.

Learned professions and engineers.—The statements concerning the number employed in the learned professions seem also to be inaccurate. Berks county, in Pennsylvania, with over sixty-four thousand inhabitants, is stated to be destitute of the members of these professions; and several counties in every State south and west are said to have none of these men among them, while, on the other hand, the town of Hanover, New Hampshire, with a population of 2,613, is said to have 356; and Schenec-

tady, in New York, with a population of 6,784, is said to have 362 men devoted to the learned professions, or acting as engineers; and Andover, Massachusetts, whose people number only 5,207, has one hundred and eighty men employed in a similar manner.

The most glaring and remarkable errors are found in the statements respecting nosology, the prevalence of insanity, blindness, deafness, and dumbness, among the people of this nation. The undersigned have compared these statements with information obtained from other and more reliable sources, and have found them widely varying from the truth; and, more than all, they have compared the statements in one part of the census with those in another part, and have found the most extraordinary discrepancies.

They have examined the original manuscript copy of the census of Massachusetts, prepared by the marshals, which contains the names of each householder or head of family, and the kind and character of each description of persons in the family, and also the manuscript copy of the same, condensed into towns and cities, which contains the kind and character of all persons in these several towns and cities. These are deposited by the marshals in the district clerk's office in Boston, and are open for public inspection. The undersigned have compared these with the printed copies of the same census, both Thomas Allen's and Blair & Rives's editions, and have found between all three a variance of statements.

The first manuscript copy, with the householders' names, gives one statement; the condensed copy of the same gives another account; and the printed editions give a third and different version of the same classes of facts. Your memorialists are aware that some of these errors, in respect to Massachusetts, and perhaps also in respect to other States, were committed by the marshals. Mr. James Estabrook, deputy marshal, states that there were one hundred and thirty-three colored pauper lunatics in the family of Samuel B. Woodward, in the town of Worcester, Massachusetts; but, on another page, he states that there are no colored persons in said Woodward's family.

Mr. William M. Jackson states, on one page, that there are in the family of Jacob Cushman, in the town of Plympton, Massachusetts, four pauper colored lunatics and one colored blind person; while, on another page, he states that there are no colored persons in the family of said Cushman. And these deputy marshals (Williams and Jackson) have affixed their names to these statements, and sent them to Washington and the world, as facts.

Some errors were also made at the clerk's office, in the condensation of the first return of the marshals.

Mr. Beriah Blood states that there are no colored insane in the town of Pepperell, in Massachusetts, but fifteen white insane. On the other hand, the condensed copy states that there are no white insane, but fifteen colored insane, in that town. This statement is again altered in the printed edition, and made correct.

But, on comparing the manuscript copy of the census at Boston with the printed edition of Blair & Rives, the undersigned are convinced that a large portion of the errors were made by the printers, and that hardly any of the errors of the original documents are left out.

The following table will exhibit the discrepancies between the statements of the original and the printed documents, and the facts, as ascertained from investigation, in the towns of Massachusetts, respecting the colored lunatics and idiots:

TABLE.

Towns.	AT PRIVATE CHARGE.			AT PUBLIC CHARGE.		
	Original document.	Printed document.	Private inquiry.	Original document.	Printed document.	State returns.
Fairhaven	0	0	0	2	0	0
Freetown	2	2	0	0	0	0
Raynham	0	0	0	1	1	0
Swansey	0	0	0	2	2	1
Wareham	0	0	0	1	1	0
Carver	1	1	0	0	0	0
Plympton	0	0	0	4	4	0
Hingham	1	2	0	0	0	0
Quincy	0	0	0	1	1	0
Becket	1	1	0	0	0	0
Westfield	1	0	0	0	0	0
West Springfield	0	0	0	1	1	1
Mendon	1	0	0	0	0	0
Warren	1	1	0	0	0	0
Worcester	1	0	0	133	133	2
Sterling	0	0	0	2	2	0
Hubbardston	0	0	0	1	1	0
Leominster	1	1	0	1	1	0
Winchenden	1	1	0	0	0	0
Pepperell*	1	1	0	0	0	0
Concord	0	0	0	1	1	1
Natick	0	0	0	1	1	0
Salem	1	1	0	2	2	1
Essex	1	1	0	1	1	0
Topshfield	0	0	0	0	0	0
Andover	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pembroke	0	1	0	0	0	0
New Bedford	0	0	0	0	2	1
Attleborough	0	0	0	0	1	0
Rochester	0	1	0	0	1	0
Randolph	0	0	0	0	1	0
Sandisfield	0	1	0	0	2	0
Reading	0	0	0	0	3	0
Wilmington	0	0	0	0	2	0
Ashby	0	0	0	0	1	0
Georgetown	0	0	0	0	2	0
Danvers	0	1	0	0	1	1
Boston	2	2	0	5	5	6
Scituate	0	5	0	0	0	0
Stockbridge	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bedford	0	1	0	0	0	0
Needham	2	2	0	0	0	0

* The original copy states that there are 13 white pauper lunatics and 2 self-supporting white lunatics in the town of Pepperell. The condensed copy makes them all to be colored lunatics—13 paupers, 2 self-supporting—and no white lunatics in town.

Thus it will be seen that the original document finds the colored insane in twenty-nine towns, while the printed edition of Blair & Rives places them in thirty-five towns, and each makes them more than ten-fold greater than the State returns, in regard to the paupers; and one edition has given twenty and the other twenty-seven self-supporting colored lunatics in towns in which, according to private inquiry, none are to be found. According to the original and manuscript copy of the census, there were in Massachusetts ten deaf and dumb and eight blind colored persons, whereas the printed editions of the same documents multiply them into seventeen of the former and twenty-two of the latter class of unfortunates.

The printed copy of the census declares that there were, in the towns of Hingham and Scituate, nineteen persons who were deaf and dumb, blind, or insane. On the other hand, the undersigned are informed by the overseers of the poor and the assessors, who have cognizance of every pauper and tax payer in the town, that, in the last twelve years, no such diseased colored persons have lived in the town of Scituate; and they have equally certain proof that no such persons lived in Hingham in 1840. Moreover, the deputy marshals neither found nor made record of such persons. The undersigned have carefully compared the number of colored insane and idiots, and of the deaf and dumb and blind, with the whole number of the colored population, as stated in the printed edition of the census, in every city, town, and county, in the United States, and have found the extraordinary contradictions and improbabilities that are shown in the following tables:

MAINE.

Towns.	Colored population.	Colored insane.	Towns.	Colored population.	Colored insane.
Biddeford	1	2	Dexter	0	1
Limerick	0	4	Dixmont	0	1
Limington*	1	2	Hope§	1	2
Newfield	0	5	Swanville	0	1
Danville	0	1	Unity	0	1
Otisfield†	0	2	Alexander	0	1
Scarborough	0	6	Baring	0	1
Dixfield	0	5	Calais	0	1
Gilead	0	1	Hartland	0	1
Hebron‡	0	1	Madison	0	1
Norway	0	6	Ripley	0	0
Peru	0	3	St. Alban's	0	0
Dresden	3	6	Industry	0	0
Edgecomb	0	1	Monmouth¶	1	1
Webster	1	2	New Portland	0	0
Leeds	0	0			
Bradford	0	0		8	

* Has also 2 colored blind.

† Has 2 colored deaf and dumb.

‡ Has 1 colored deaf and dumb.

§ Has 1 deaf and dumb colored.

|| Has 1 deaf and dumb and 1 blind colored.

¶ Has 1 colored deaf and dumb.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Towns.	Total colored inhabitants.	Colored insane.	Towns.	Total colored inhabitants.	Colored insane.
Coventry	0	1	Stratham	0	1
Haverhill	1	1	Northampton	0	1
Holderness	0	2	New Hampton	0	1
Atkinson	0	1	Lyman	0	1
Bath	0	1	Littleton	0	1
Lisbon	0	1	Henniker	0	1
Compton	1	1			

MASSACHUSETTS.

Freetown	0	2	Georgetown	1	2
Plympton	2	4	Carver	1	1
Leominster	0	2	Northbridge	1	1
Wilmington	0	2	Ashby	1	1
Sterling	0	2	Randolph	1	1
Danvers	0	2	Worcester*	151	133
Hingham	2	2			

CONNECTICUT.

Waterford	2	7			
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VERMONT.

Rushford	0	1	Lyndon	1	2
Athens	2	2	Castleton	4	2
Barnet	0	1	Fairhaven	1	1

NEW YORK.

Conewango	0	0	Westville	0	0
Olean	0	0	French Creek	0	1
Ellington	0	5	Carroll	0	0
Sherman	0	0	Holland	0	0
Barre	10	6	Crown Point	0	0
Shelby	1	7	Sandy Creek	0	1
Providence†	3	2	Hadley	0	0
Stockholm	0	1	Parishville	0	1
Chester	0	1	Groton	0	5
Java	0	1	Dryden‡	0	2
Lansing	8	4	Great Valley	0	1
Leon	0	1			

* Thirty-six of these are under 10 years of age.

‡ Dryden has 2 colored blind.

† Providence has also 2 colored deaf and 9 dumb.

NEW JERSEY.

Towns.	Total colored inhabitants.	Colored insane.	Towns.	Total colored inhabitants.	Colored insane.
Stafford	-	1			
OHIO.					
Greene, Wayne county	1	2	Spencer	-	1
Ellsworth	0	3	Jefferson, Richland co.	0	1
Canfield	1	1	Canaan	0	1
Venice	0	1	Sylvania	-	1
Thompson	1	2	Amherst	0	1
Vernon	2	2	Franklin	0	1
Porter	0	1	Starr	0	2
Bristol	0	2	Runley	0	2
Lordstown	0	1	Chester	0	1
Tascaraswas	0	1	Auburn	0	2
Salem	1	1	Newbury	0	1
Liberty	0	1	Burton	0	1
Bloomfield	0	1	Plain	0	1
Greenfield	0	1	Jefferson, Franklin co.	0	1
Falls	1	1	Norwich	0	3
Jefferson, Madison co.	0	1	Harrison	0	1
Sharon	0	1	Bricksville	1	1
Montgomery	1	4	Brooklyn	0	1
Vernilion	0	1	Green, Clarke county	1	2
Greene, Richland co.	0	1	Lewis	7	7
Hanover	0	1	Elk	0	1
Monroe	0	1	Alexander	1	1
Washington, Preble co.	0	4	Lenox	0	1
Washington, Pickaway county	0	7	Pleasant	12	8

INDIANA.

Noble	0	2	Marshall	1	2
Owen	0	2	Fulton	1	1
Marion	0	1	Bartholomew	0	1

ILLINOIS.

Plainfield, Will county	0	1	Wilmington, Greene co.	0	5
Scott county	4	5	Taylor, Greene county	0	2
Marshall county	0	1	So. Rickwoods, Greene county	0	1
Livingston county	1	1	Township 6 N. 1 E., Fulton county	0	1
Logan county	1	6	De Kalb county	0	1
Lasalle county	2	1	Christian county	0	3
Council Hill, Jo Davies county	0	1			

PENNSYLVANIA.

Towns or counties.	Total colored in- habitants.	Colored insane.	Towns or counties.	Total colored in- habitants.	Colored insane.
Colebrookdale -	0	2	Ridgebury -	0	1
Bloomfield -	2	3	Lebaeuf -	0	3
Centre -	4	8	Washington, Erie co. -	0	4
Old Codorus -	0	2	Washington, Indiana county -	0	1
West Providence -	6	3	Little Beaver -	0	1
Armstrong -	0	1	Plum -	8	5
Harris -	3	6	Logan -	0	2
Jay -	2	2	Upper Paxton -	2	0
Greenwood, Millerstown borough -	0	2	Oliver, Newport borough -	0	0

MICHIGAN.

Rensselaer -	0	1	Milton -	0	1
Antrim -	0	1	Wheatland -	0	0
Vernon -	0	1	Penfield -	0	0
Unadilla -	0	1	Athens -	0	0
Rollin -	0	1	Bertrand -	0	0
Sandstone -	1	1	Sheridan -	0	1
Glass Lake -	0	1			

IOWA.

Jefferson county -	0	2			
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DEAF AND DUMB AND BLIND AMONG THE COLORED POPULATION.

MAINE.

Towns.	Popula- tion.	Blind.	Deaf and dumb.	Towns.	Popula- tion.	Blind.	Deaf and dumb.
Limington -	1	2	0	Hebron -	0	0	1
Scarborough -	0	1	0	Hope -	1	0	1
Raymond -	1	1	0	Calais -	0	1	1
Orono -	1	0	1	Anson -	3	0	2

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Danville -	0	0	1	New Hampton -	0	0	1
Lee -	0	0	1	Meredith -	8	1	5

MASSACHUSETTS.

Towns.	Popula- tion.	Blind.	Deaf and dumb.	Towns.	Popula- tion.	Blind.	Deaf and dumb.
Carver -	0	0	1	Milford -	5	0	4
Levett -	0	1	0	Hingham -	2	7	1

VERMONT.

Fairfax -	0	0	1	Hartland -	0	1	0
Rupert -	0	1	0				

NEW YORK.

Harmony -	0	2	0	Schroon -	0	0	1
Poland -	0	2	0	Westville -	0	1	0
Minna -	6	1	0	Rutland -	0	0	2
Preston -	4	0	4	Ellisburg -	0	0	1
Pharsalia -	1	0	1	Harrisburg -	0	1	0
Colden -	0	1	0	Parishville -	0	1	0
Pike -	2	2	0	Stockholm -	0	0	1
Dryden* -	2	2	0	Providence† -	3	0	2

PENNSYLVANIA.

Reading -	0	0	1	Shamokin -	0	1	0
Colebrookdale -	0	1	0	Mifflinburg -	0	0	2
Haycock -	0	1	0	Lebœuf -	0	1	2
Ross -	0	1	0	Farmington -	0	1	1
Franconia -	0	1	1				

OHIO.

Marion -	0	1	0	Canaan -	0	1	0
Chatfield -	0	1	0	Brunswick -	1	0	1
Sycamore -	0	0	1	Butler -	0	1	0
Bricksville‡ -	1	1	0	Salt Creek -	1	0	1
Falls -	1	0	2	Washington,			
Liberty§ -	0	1	0	Pickaway co. -	0	1	0
York -	0	0	1	Jefferson, Rich-			
Reed -	0	1	0	land county -	0	1	0
Unity -	0	1	0				
Jefferson, Madi- son county -	0	1	0				

* Dryden has also 2 colored insane.

† Providence has also 2 colored insane.

‡ Bricksville has 1 colored lunatic, according to the census.

§ Liberty has 1 colored lunatic, according to the census.

|| Jefferson has 1 colored lunatic, according to the census.

INDIANA.

Towns.	Popula- tion.	Blind.	Deaf and dumb.	Towns.	Popula- tion.	Blind.	Deaf and dumb.
Clifty, Bartholomew county -	0	2	0	Madison co. * -	6	0	3
Kosciusko co. -	0	1	0	Wayne -	0	1	3
Madison -	0	0	3	Floyd -	0	1	0
Scott -	0	0	1	Sugar Creek -	0	1	0
				Cotton -	0	3	0

MICHIGAN.

Porter -	0	1	0	Howell -	0	1	0
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ILLINOIS.

Boone -	0	0	0	Township No. 46, Winnebago county -	0	0	0
Scott † -	4	0	0				
Spring Creek -	0	0	0				

IOWA.

Jones -	0	0	3	Linn -	0	2	1
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To those who examine the census in its details, the statements respecting the number of colored insane in these towns and counties carries on its very face its own refutation; and no one who thus studies the report can possibly be misled.

But these palpable errors are by no means all. There are others almost as self-evident. In many towns, all the colored population are stated to be insane; in very many others, two-thirds, one-third, one-fourth, or one-tenth, of this ill-starred race are reported to be thus afflicted; and, as if the document delighted to revel in every variety of error, every proportion of the negro population, from seven where were none, as we have shown in some towns, to less than a two-thousandth, as is recorded of others, is declared to be a lunatic.

The errors of the census are as certain, if not as manifest, in regard to insanity among the whites as among the colored population.

The Massachusetts Medical Society made inquiry, through its members, of almost every householder in the State in whose family there were, according to the census, in 1840, any colored lunatic, blind, or deaf and dumb

* Madison county has four colored lunatics, according to the census.

† According to the census, Scott has also four colored lunatics.

persons, and were almost invariably answered, that there were no such persons, but, in most cases, that there were lunatic, blind, or deaf and dumb *white* persons, whom the marshals had not reported.*

Wherever your memorialists have been able to compare the census with the results of the investigations of the State Governments, of individuals, or of societies, they have found that the national enumeration has fallen far short of the more probable amount.

According to the census, there were in Massachusetts 627 lunatics and idiots supported on public charge; according to the returns of the overseers of the poor, there were 927 of this class of paupers.

The superintendents of the poor of the State of New York report 1,058 pauper lunatics within that State; the census reports only 739.

The Government of New Jersey report 701 in that State; the census discovers only 442.

The Medical Society of Connecticut discovered twice as many lunatics as the census within that State.

A similar discrepancy was found in eastern Pennsylvania, and also in some counties of Virginia.

Your memorialists deem it needless to go further into detail in this matter. Suffice it to say, that these are but specimens of the errors that are to be found in the sixth census, in regard to nosology, education, and employments, and they suspect, also, in regard to other matters therein reported.

The statements of the census—both the assertions and negations—are, with few exceptions, given, without reservation or qualification, as the whole truth upon the subjects investigated. Wherever there was any deficiency of the returns, any defect of the information, any misunderstanding of the meaning of the questions, any misplacement of the figures, or any doubt, on the part of those by whom the census was compiled and "*corrected at the Department of State,*" as to the accuracy or fulness of the returns, it is so stated in marginal notes, or in the body of the document. "*No return,*" in regard to employments, capital, and productions, stands against York county, Virginia; Bryan and Houston counties, in Georgia; Pickens and Sumter counties, Alabama; Caldwell, Claiborne, and Union counties, in Louisiana; and Hillsborough and Musquito counties, in Florida; and in the last two counties the reason is given for the want of "returns." "*No returns*" are stated to be received of the capital employed in commerce in Rutherford county, North Carolina. It is noted, in respect to Smyth county, Virginia, that "*two persons, owners of two of the stores of the above 11, refused to answer questions.*" In regard to the employments, productions, and capital, of Harris county, Georgia, the census states that "*the return is imperfect, in consequence of the refusal of the citizens to answer questions.*" In respect to the tanneries in three counties in Georgia, three in Tennessee, and one in Kentucky, the correcters state, in notes: "*From the above number of tanneries reported, and the very small quantity of hides tanned, it is probable that the assistant marshal has returned plantation tanneries, where one or more vats are used. They are therefore rejected in the general aggregate.*" Likewise,

* This error was singularly manifested in regard to the State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester, Massachusetts, under the superintendency of Doctor Samuel B. Woodward. The marshal reports that there were 133 *colored*, not *white*, pauper lunatics in his family, whereas the reverse was the fact.

in regard to the cotton manufactories in Todd county, Kentucky, and Sumner county, Tennessee, the same authority notices the error: "*Supposed to be cotton spinning machines, and not carried into the addition.*"

In regard to the returns of the number of newspapers printed in three counties of Kentucky, and in three counties of Virginia, the same annotator warns the public of the mistake, saying that it is the "*number of the edition, and not carried into the addition.*"

In respect to the value of manufactures in Addison county, Vermont, Greene county, Alabama, three counties in Missouri, five in New York, and Georgetown, D. C., it is noted: "*Supposed to be the number of manufactories, instead of the value of manufactures, and not carried into the addition.*" And, lastly, the marshal, in his return of the quantity of fuel consumed in iron manufactories in New Orleans, stated that the quantity was "*estimated,*" and not measured. These explanations and reservations are confined to the thirty-eight counties and two cities, and to the specific matters herein above quoted. All the rest of the statements of the census, both positive and negative, are given without qualification in regard to all the other counties and cities and towns in the Union, and in regard to all other subjects specified in the law which directed the enumeration.

With the above forty exceptions, the document is understood to assert that the information was received and the returns made, in regard to all the subjects of investigation, from all the parts and people of these United States; that the classes of population, their employments, capital, and productions, were accurately counted or measured; that their means of education, and their disorders of mind or senses, were faithfully ascertained, and all reported; and these reports were "*corrected at the Department of State.*" It is understood, that wherever there were any people or matter specified, it is so stated, and how many and how much; and wherever there were none, it is so stated in blank. The negations are given on the same authority as the assertions. That no cotton is raised in Maine, no paper manufactured in Georgia, and that no persons are employed in agriculture in Wayne county, Pennsylvania, and none employed in agriculture, commerce, mining, manufactures, trades, navigation of the ocean, lakes, rivers, or canals, in the learned professions, or in engineering, in Macon county, Illinois, or in other counties or towns which are published as blank in regard to any or all of these details—all of these statements are made in the same manner, and are understood to be positively asserted.

In view of these facts, the undersigned, in behalf of said association, conceive that such documents ought not to have the sanction of Congress, nor ought they to be regarded as containing true statements relative to the condition of the people and the resources of the United States. They believe it would have been far better to have had no census at all, than such a one as has been published; and they respectfully request your honorable bodies to take such order thereon, and to adopt such measures for the correction of the same, or, if the same cannot be corrected, of discarding and disowning the same, as the good of the country shall require, and as justice and humanity shall demand.

Respectfully submitted.

EDWARD JARVIS,

WILLIAM BRIGHAM,

J. WINGATE THORNTON,

Committee of the American Statistical Association.

BOSTON, November, 1844.